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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/770,353

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Ganapathy Krishnan

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EXAMINER

WINTER, JOHN M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3621

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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3 MONTHS

03/09/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/770,353	KRISHNAN ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	John M. Winter	3621	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 December 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 and 22-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 and 22-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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DETAILED ACTION

Status

Claims 1-20, 22-30 remain pending.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

Response to Arguments

The applicants arguments filed on December 28, 2006 have been fully considered.

The Applicant states that the reference discloses by the Examiner fail to cite the claimed feature of cite of "a license component incorporated within a component of the digital content that communicates with a remote licensing broker to verify that a user is licensed to receive the digital content".

The Examiner responds that the applicant misinterprets the principle that claims are interpreted in the light of the specification. Although these elements of the licensing component interacting with a distinct remote licensing server are found as examples or embodiments in the specification, they were not claimed explicitly or were the words that are used in the claims defined in the specification to require these limitations. A reading of the specification provides no evidence to indicate that these limitations must be imported into the claims to give meaning to disputed terms. The Examiner contends that as claimed a "license component" could constitute merely a string of numbers etc..., furthermore there is no language that explicitly states that the licensing broker is a distinct entity from the supplier etc...

The Applicant states that the claims of the present invention are directed towards a different purpose and are not obvious in view of the prior art.

Examiner responds that as per *Ex parte Clapp*, 227 USPQ 972 (Bd Pat App & Int) "To support conclusion that claimed combination is directed to obvious subject matter, the references must either expressly or impliedly suggest claimed combination or the examiner must present a convincing line of reasoning as to why artisan would have found claimed invention to have been obvious in light of the references teachings.", the Examiner states the reference deals with the generalized problem of content distribution and licensing and therefore would be obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art.

See following rejection

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-20 and 22-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Katz (US Patent No 5,926,624) in view of Coley et al. (US Patent 5,790,664).

As per claim 1,
Katz et al. ('624) discloses a system for acquiring digital content, the system comprising:
a digital-content-accessing component invoked by a selection interface, provided
by a digital-content supplier, to receive and authenticate one or more components of the
digital content on a client computer,(Figure 2)
to store the one or more received and authenticated components in an unusable form on
the client computer; (Figure 5)
a license component incorporated within a component of the digital content that
communicates with a remote licensing broker to verify that a user is licensed to receive
the digital content (Column 8, lines 1-14)

Katz et al. ('624) does not explicitly disclose generates a useable form of the digital
content from the one or more components of the digital content; Coley et al. ('664) discloses
generates a useable form of the digital content from the one or more components of the digital
content (Column 4, lines 41-48). It would be obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at
the time the invention was made to combine the Katz et al. ('624) method with the Coley et al.
('664) method in order to enable the transaction to yield a useful product.

Claim 14 and 24 are in parallel with claim 1 and are rejected for at least the same reasons.

As per claim 2,
Katz et al. ('624) discloses the system of claim 1
wherein the selection interface is instantiated on the client computer, (Figure 2)
wherein the selection interface provides a description of the digital content; (Column 9,
lines 31-37)
wherein the selection interface provides for selection, by the user, of the digital content
for acquisition from a remote digital-content vendor. (Column 9, lines 31-37; figure 1)

Claim 15 is in parallel with claim 2 and is rejected for at least the same reasons.

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As per claim 3,
Katz et al. ('624) discloses the system of claim 2 wherein the selection interface is one of:

an executable file that displays a graphical user interface; data received by the client computer that is rendered by a program running on the client computer to display a graphical user interface; a web page displayed by a browser application running on the client computer; a text file stored on the client computer that includes links or references to the digital content that allow the user to access the digital content by a communications means including one or more of an Internet browser, email, mail, telephone, fax, and file transfer protocols. (Column 9, lines 31-37; figure 1)

Claim 16 is in parallel with claim 3 and is rejected for at least the same reasons.

As per claim 4,
Katz et al. ('624) discloses the system of claim 1
wherein the digital-content-accessing component is an executable file that, when executed on the client computer, accesses and receives the components of the digital content from remote computer systems. (Column 9, lines 31-37; figure 1)

Claim 17 is in parallel with claim 4 and is rejected for at least the same reasons.

As per claim 5,
Katz et al. ('624) discloses the system of claim 4
wherein the digital-content-accessing component is transmitted from a remote computer to the client computer through a communications medium. (Column 9, lines 31-37; Column 9, lines 51-54)

Claim 18 is in parallel with claim 5 and is rejected for at least the same reasons.

As per claim 6,
Katz et al. ('624) discloses the system of claim 4
Official Notice is taken that "the digital-content-accessing component is generated locally on the client computer from a component list" is common and well known in prior art in reference to distributed computing protocols. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to generate the digital-content-accessing component locally so that the program code could be compiled with machine specific optimizations

Claim 19 is in parallel with claim 6 and is rejected for at least the same reasons.

As per claim 7,
Katz et al. ('624) discloses the system of claim

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wherein the digital-content-accessing component authenticates a received digital-content component by generating a message digest from the received digital-content component and comparing the generated message digest with a stored message digest. (Column 14, lines 29-54)

As per claim 8,
Katz et al. ('624) discloses the system of claim 1
wherein at least one received digital-content component is encrypted. (Figure 2)

Claims 20 and 25 are in parallel with claim 8 and are rejected for at least the same reasons.

As per claim 9,
Katz et al. ('624) discloses the system of claim 1
Katz et al. ('624) does not explicitly disclose the license component requests an electronic license certificate from the licensing broker; Coley et al. ('664) discloses the license component requests an electronic license certificate from the licensing broker (Figure 2). It would be obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the Katz et al. ('624) method with the Coley et al. ('664) method in order to prevent fraudulent transactions.

Claim 26 is in parallel with claim 9 and is rejected for at least the same reasons.

As per claim 10,
Katz et al. ('624) discloses the system of claim 1
Official Notice is taken that "the license component decrypts any encrypted, received digital-content components" is common and well known in prior art in reference to distributed computing protocols. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to decrypt encrypted data in order to access information from the data.

Claim 27 is in parallel with claim 10 and is rejected for at least the same reasons.

As per claim 11,
Katz et al. ('624) discloses the system of claim 1
Official Notice is taken that "executes a purchase transaction to purchase a license for the digital content on behalf of the user" is common and well known in prior art in reference to distributed computing protocols. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to purchase a license in order to allow the creator of the content to make a profit from the distribution of the content

Claim 28 is in parallel with claim 11 and is rejected for at least the same reasons.

As per claim 12,

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Katz et al. ('624) discloses the system of claim 1 wherein components of the digital content may include one or more of:

an encrypted executable file; an encrypted data file; a user interface library; a purchasing request library; a security information file; and an electronic license certificate. (Column 9, lines 31-37; figure 1)

Claims 22 and 29 are in parallel with claim 12 and are rejected for at least the same reasons.

As per claim 13,

Katz et al. ('624) discloses the system of claim 1 wherein components of the digital content includes one or more of:

digitally encoded executable code; digitally encoded source code; a digitally encoded video program; a digitally encoded audio program; digitally encoded music; a digitally encoded game; a digitally encoded multi-media program; a digitally encoded text document. (Column 9, lines 31-37; figure 1)

Claims 23 and 30 are in parallel with claim 13 and are rejected for at least the same reasons.

Conclusion

Examiners note: Examiner has cited particular columns and line numbers in the references as applied to the claims above for the convenience of the applicant. Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings of the art and are applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested from the applicant in preparing responses, to fully consider the references in entirety as potentially teaching all or part of the claimed invention, as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior art or disclosed by the examiner.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John M. Winter whose telephone number is (571) 272-6713. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-6, 1st Fridays off.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Fischer can be reached on (571) 272-6779. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Winter', with a long horizontal line extending to the left.

John Winter
Patent Examiner -- 3621

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Fischer', followed by the date '3/5/07'.

ANDREW J. FISCHER
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600